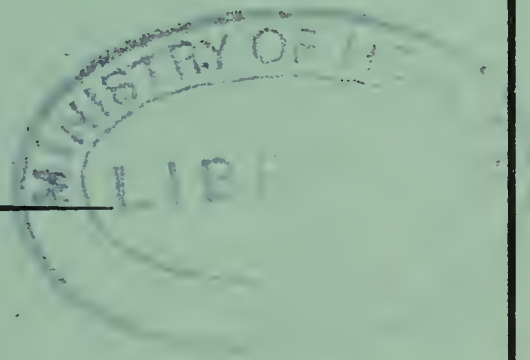


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Yeovil Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1953

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

P. P. FOX, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

CHARLES A. WILSON, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

BRYNMOR MORRIS, M.S.I.A.

DOUGLAS N. SIBLEY, M.I.S.A., A.R.San.I.

Assistant Housing Inspector:

S. R. BARHAM.

Assistant Housing Manager:

Mrs. D. K. TROW.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS
OF
YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1953.

The health of the community has continued to be satisfactory although the number of infectious diseases notified showed a considerable increase as compared with the previous year. This increase was mainly attributable to the number of measles notified 438 as compared with 2 for the year 1952. In general the disease was of a mild nature. In addition there was a considerable increase in the number of cases of whooping cough notified 104 cases as compared with 67 for the previous year.

THE VITAL STATISTICS for the year compare favourably with those of the previous year and for England and Wales in general.

THE CORRECTED BIRTH RATE was 14.3 as compared with 14.72 for the previous year, the provisional birth rate for England and Wales was 15.5.

THE CORRECTED DEATH RATE was 7.6 as compared with 10.13 for the previous year and 11.4 for England and Wales.

THE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE was 21.08 as compared with 27.19 for the previous year; the rate for England and Wales was 26.8 which is the lowest ever recorded for the country.

HOUSING.

Despite the number of houses built during the year the number of applicants remained the same. The number of council houses built was 106, the number of conversions of premises into houses being 6, and in addition the number of houses built by private enterprise was 46, making a total of 158. The figures for the year 1952 were 49, 19 and 22 respectively, making a total of 90.

In addition, a further 108 houses were completed by other authorities e.g. Admiralty, War Office and the Yeovil Borough.

APPLICANTS ON WAITING LIST

	1953	1952
Sub-Tenants with children ...	100	113
Sub-Tenants with no children ...	114	97
Householders with children ...	169	193
Householders with no children ...	97	69
Tenants of huts with children ...	6	15
Tenants of huts with no children ...	4	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	490	490
	<hr/>	<hr/>

HEALTH OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Mass Radiography of school children aged 14 years and over has now been established on an annual procedure, transport being provided for pupils attending the Secondary Modern Schools in the Rural Area.

I wish to take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the Council and members of the staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. POWER FOX.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	53,495 acres
Rateable Value (1st April, 1954)	...	...				£91,043
Estimated Produce of 1d. rate in the year ending 31st March, 1954	...	...	...	...	...	£357 13 9
Number of inhabited houses (1st April, 1954)	...					6,277
Population	...	...	...	...	...	24,490

REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	319	156	163
Illegitimate	...	...	...	13	7	6
				<hr/> 332	<hr/> 163	<hr/> 169
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...					13.5
Corrected Birth Rate	...	...	...	...		14.3

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	6	4	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Grand Total	...	...	...	<hr/>6	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...				...	17.7

DEATHS

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
				196	104	92
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...				8.003
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	...					7.6

MATERNAL DEATHS 1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

All Infants	7	Rate per 1,000 live births	21.08
Legitimate Infants	7	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.9
Illegitimate Infants	—	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages)		... ..	60
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		... ..	30
Deaths from Phthisis (all ages)		... ..	4

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

After allowing for inward and outward transfers the Registrar General's figures for the Yeovil Rural District was 332 live births; 163 were male and 169 were female.

Of these, 13 were illegitimate (7 males and 6 females). These figures are a decrease on the previous year's (8 males and 6 females).

BIRTH RATES

Yeovil Rural District	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	18.6	18.3	20.8	21.71	17.3	19.9	14.6	13.89	13.76	13.5
Eng. & Wales	17.6	16.6	19.1	20.5	17.8	16.7	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5

DEATHS

After correction for transferable deaths the net total assigned to the Yeovil R.D. was 196, viz. : 104 males and 92 females. The crude death rate was 8.003 as compared with 10.56 for the previous year. The corrected death rate was 7.6 as compared with 10.13 for the previous year.

There were 102 deaths occurring in persons over 70 years of age. The primary cause of death was heart disease (60) with cancer second (30).

The following table shows the causes of death and the sex distribution.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	1952	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	3	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	1
Meningococcal infections	—	1
Malignant neoplasm stomach	3	3
Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	7	1
Malignant neoplasm breast	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	7
Diabetes	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	18
Coronary disease angina	14	11
Hypertension with heart disease	—	2
Other heart disease	17	16
Other circulatory disease	4	9
Influenza	1	2
Pneumonia	2	4
Bronchitis	6	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1
Congenital malformations... ..	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	9
Motor vehicle accidents	5	—
Suicide	3	1
	104	92

The Crude Death Rate for the past ten years is as follows :—

1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
11.8	12.4	11.7	13.42	10.3	13.1	11.73	10.92	10.56	8.003

CANCER

The number of deaths due to cancer (all forms) was 30. The table as set out below shows the incidence of cancer for previous years.

1940	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
29	27	39	39	28	51	37	46	32	30

CANCER DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION :

Year	1940	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Yeovil Rural District	1.4	1.4	2.1	1.9	1.4	2.7	1.7	1.92	1.33	1.22
County of Somerset	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.07	1.9	1.9	1.896		1.98	
England and Wales	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.946		1.99	1.99

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of children dying within the first months of life was 7 as compared with 9 for the previous year. The rate per 1,000 of all live births was 21.08.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	3
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	1
Intracranial Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Total	7

AGE OF DEATH

Under 24 hours 3	Under 1 week 5	1 month or under 6	Under 1 year 7
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Number of Deaths ...	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
	7	9	12	7	14	8	6	11
Rate per 1,000 live births	21.08	27.1	36.44	22.8	37.4	24.7	37	34
For England and Wales	26.8	27.6	29.6	29.8	32	34	41	43

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There was 1 maternal death during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table sets out the details of infectious diseases notified during the year and also the figures for the previous year.

DISEASE	<i>Cases Notified</i>	
	1953	1952
Poliomyelitis	17	21
Scarlet Fever	14	70
Dysentery	2	1
Measles	438	2
Pneumonia	17	15
Erysipelas	2	2
Whooping Cough	104	67
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1
Malaria	1	—
Meningococcal Septicaemia	1	1

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS

The number of cases of Anterior Poliomyelitis notified was 17 as compared with 21 for the previous year.

In the past few years there has been a very close liaison between the Orthopaedic Service and South Petherton Hospital, and all cases before they are discharged home, or transferred to an orthopaedic hospital, are examined by an orthopaedic surgeon. A follow-up service exists whereby all children are subsequently seen at the Orthopaedic Clinics held at Yeovil Hospital, and in 1951 this service was extended so as to include hydrotherapy exercises at the Yeovil Borough Swimming Bath. The service is now well established.

The credit for this satisfactory state of affairs is mainly due to Yeovil Detachments of the British Red Cross who provide members each Saturday to encourage the children to exercise and swim. The County Orthopaedic Sister is present to supervise and advise regarding exercises for individual children.

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

The number of children under the age of 5 years immunised against Diphtheria or Diphtheria and Whooping Cough was 256, the number of children receiving a reinforcement dose being 241.

Figures compiled by the County Council show that in the past 5 years, i.e. from 1st January, 1954, 928 children under the age of 5 years were protected against Diphtheria, the number of children between the ages of 5 and 14 years being 1,233 making a grand total of 2,161. These figures do not include children immunised prior to the 1st January, 1949.

VACCINATION

The number of children vaccinated or re-vaccinated during the year either by general practitioners or County Medical Service was 224 as compared with 307 for the previous year.

Under 1year		1 to 4 years		5 to 14 years		15 years or over	
P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.
190	—	28	1	6	1	4	49

P: Primary Vaccination

R: Re-Vaccination

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

No Local Authority Ante-Natal Clinics are held in the area, Ante-Natal supervision being conducted by the General Practitioners and the District Nurse-Midwives. A number of expectant mothers do attend the Ante-Natal Clinic held in Yeovil and a considerable number of expectant mothers attend the Rh. Clinic which is held at Yeovil.

INFANT WELFARE

Infant Welfare Centres are held at Martock, Stoke, South Petherton, West Coker, Wraxhill Road, Yeovil, Houndstone and Ilchester. The following table gives details regarding attendances, etc.

	<i>Mar- tock</i>	<i>Stoke- under- Ham</i>	<i>South Pether- ton</i>	<i>West Coker</i>	<i>Wrax- hill Road</i>	<i>Hound- stone</i>	<i>Ilch- ester</i>
No. of children who at- tended for the first time	18	31	44	23	23	36	46
No. of children who at- tended during the year	69	96	123	65	79	82	117
Total attendances of children during the year	330	423	554	348	276	258	420
Average attendance of children per session ...	18	18	23	29	23	21	35
Average attendance of mothers per session ...	17	16	23	22	19	19	32
Total No. of children examined by doctor ...	42	48	71	53	39	0	82
No. of sessions with medical officer ...	12	12	12	12	12	0	12
No. of sessions ...	18	24	24	12	12	12	12
No. of individual mothers who attended ...	62	77	113	50	64	59	109

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

BIRTHS

<i>Live Births</i> ...	Legitimate 319	Illegitimate 13	Total 332
<i>Still Births</i> ...	Legitimate —	Illegitimate —	Total —
INFANT DEATHS <i>Number</i> ...	Legitimate 7	Illegitimate —	Total 7

BLOOD EXAMINATION CLINIC

The number of expectant mothers who attended the Clinic at Yeovil was 428, a considerable proportion of the patients attending being resident in the Yeovil Rural District.

Apart from the immediate value of the information gained there is also a long term value. Copies of the results of tests are forwarded to the patient's doctor and also to the Yeovil Hospital so that in the event of an emergency, e.g. road accident, the patient's blood group, etc., is already known and valuable time may be saved.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The office accommodation of the local staff is situated at the Preston Road Clinic. The following table shows the service given in the past year.

Number of cases who received help in 1953 :—

Type of Case				
Maternity	...	...	...	17
Old Age and Infirmary	...	...	...	35
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6
Chronic Illness	...	...	...	8
Emergency Illness	...	...	...	8
Total				<hr/> 74 <hr/>

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year was 14, non-pulmonary 1. There were 4 deaths recorded as due to tuberculosis, pulmonary 3, and 1 non-pulmonary.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year was 14 as compared with 19 for the previous year. The number of Non-Pulmonary cases notified was 1 as compared with 8 for the previous year.

The number of deaths due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 4 as compared with 3 for the previous year, and due to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 1 as compared with Nil for the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
0—1								
1—5								
5—15	1				1			
15—25	4	2						
25—35	1			1	1			
35—45	1							
45—55	3	1						
55—65	1				2			
65 and upwards								1
Total	11	3		1	4			1
Total New Cases : 15					Deaths : 5			
	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
No. of cases notified pulmonary	14	19	15	12	21	12	8	23
No. of cases notified non-pulmonary	1	8	4	1	2	4	5	3
No. of deaths pulmonary	4	3	1	2	6	6	—	3
No. of deaths non-pulmonary	1	—	1	1	2	1	—	1
Death rate of respiratory tuberculosis per 1,000 population	0.1	0.1	0.04	0.09	0.32	0.33	0.0	0.16

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

As in previous years the Mass Radiography Service visited Yeovil, a total of 4,460 individuals being examined. The figures do not relate entirely to the Yeovil Rural District as they include a considerable percentage of people resident in the Yeovil Borough.

The value of this service is becoming more appreciated each year. The total number of active pulmonary tuberculosis cases discovered was 12. The table below sets out the extent to which the service has been used in recent years and the value of the surveys.

No. of people examined		No. of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis Diagnosed	
		Active	Inactive
1948	4,260	9	32
1949	2,298	13	31
1950	2,316	4	41
1951	3,015	8	34
1952	4,191	9	37
1953	4,460	12	22

As in previous years my thanks are due to the Organising Secretary, Mr. Coffey, for the co-operation I have received from him in arranging these visits.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1.—WATER SUPPLIES

Whilst there was no serious shortage of water during the year, the supply was only maintained by temporary supplies which are not entirely satisfactory.

The early completion of the Council's comprehensive scheme, including the impounding reservoir at Sutton Bingham, is very necessary for the improvement of the water supply in the rural district.

Number of samples taken for Bacteriological Examination :	135
Number of samples reported Satisfactory	: 130
Number of samples reported Unsatisfactory	: 5
Number of samples taken for Chemical Examination	: 16
Number of samples reported Satisfactory	: 16
Number of samples reported Unsatisfactory	: Nil

2.—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

East and West Coker—The scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal was completed during the year.

Haselbury Plucknett—The scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal was completed during the year.

There is still a considerable number of parishes without proper sewers and sewage disposal schemes, and in several cases existing disposal works are inadequate and should be renewed.

3.—PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of refuse is undertaken in all parishes and was extended during the year to a number of new housing estates, thereby increasing the number of man-hours allocated to this service.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Inspections of Sewerage and Drainage	...	328
Inspections for Nuisances	... ..	162
Informal Notices Served	... ..	42
Drainage Tests and Inspections	... ..	380
Rooms Disinfected	... ..	7
Inspections of Water Supplies	... ..	375
Slaughterhouse Inspections	... ..	160

Shops and Offices—It was not found necessary to take any special action under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

Smoke Abatement—It was not found necessary to take any action.

SECTION D

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under P.H. or Housing Acts) ...	862
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,204
2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under H. Con. Reg. 1925 and 1932 ...	46
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	68
(c)	Number of Houses in which no action was found necessary ...	Nil
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human occupation ...	5
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human occupation ...	63

HOUSING ACTION

(a)	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	26
(b)	Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action ...	1

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING the YEAR
PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING
ACT, 1936

1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	1
2.	Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—	
(a)	By Owners ...	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil

PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	32
2.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—	
	(a) By Owners	32
	(b) By Local Authority	Nil

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11, 13 AND 26 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936

1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
2.	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
3.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Undertaking was given not to let	5

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936

1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been made fit ...	Nil

HOUSING ACT, 1936 — OVERCROWDING

(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year (est.)	80
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... (est.)	153
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... (est.)	545
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	5
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	21
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	74
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

(a) Number of Registered Dairies	...	...	...	5
(b) Number of Retailers in the area	...	...	...	9
(c) Number of supplementary licences issued to dealers or distributors whose dairy is outside the area	...	...	...	6
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	...	...	...	5

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Number of Slaughterhouses Licensed	...	...	...	15
Carcases Inspected:—				
Cows	...	...	...	Nil
Calves	...	...	...	Nil
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	Nil
Pigs	...	...	...	6
Horses	...	...	...	1,713
Tuberculosis only (Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned):—				
Cows	...	...	...	Nil
Pigs	...	...	...	Nil
Percentage of the number of carcasses inspected affected with T.B.	...	...	...	—

NUMBER OF BAKEHOUSES IN THE DISTRICT ... 20

NUMBER OF OFFENSIVE TRADES CARRIED ON IN
THE DISTRICT ... 1

BYELAWS (under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938)

It was not found necessary to take any formal action under the above Byelaws.

FOOD INSPECTION

The following food was condemned during the year:—

62	lbs. of Pork
247	lbs. of Beef
4½	lbs. of Cheese
6	lbs. of Liver
138	tins of various foodstuffs

ADULTERATION

The Council is not a Local Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the Yeovil Rural District Council
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1953.

HOUSING

The number of new houses completed during the year by the Council was 106, by private enterprise 46, and by other authorities 108. The number of conversions of premises into new units of accommodation was only 6. With the exception of conversions, these figures show a considerable improvement on the figures for recent years.

The repair and improvement of existing houses has not been keeping pace with new building, but it is anticipated that new legislation will, if passed, encourage owners to carry out such works more readily than has been the case during the post-war years.

1953 PROGRAMME

BY THE COUNCIL

1. Completed during the year :—

(a) Permanent Brick Houses	...	...	...	...	72
(b) Permanent "New Tradition" Houses	...	...	...	...	34
2. Under Construction 31.12.53 :—

(a) Permanent Brick Houses	...	...	...	...	26
(b) Permanent "New Tradition" Houses	...	...	...	...	60

BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

1. Completed during the year :—

(a) Permanent Brick Houses	...	...	...	...	46
(b) Conversion of Buildings into Houses	...	...	...	...	6
2. Under Construction at 31.12.53 :—

(a) Permanent Brick Houses	...	...	...	...	46
(b) Conversions	...	...	...	...	6

BY OTHER AUTHORITIES (YEOVIL BOROUGH COUNCIL, NAVAL AND ARMY AUTHORITIES)

1. Number of Permanent Houses completed during year 108

HOUSING ACT, 1949—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

No grant was made during the year.

One application, involving improvements to 3 cottages, had been approved by the Council and was under consideration by the Ministry at 31st December, 1953.

BUILDING LICENSING

The control of civil building was further relaxed during the year.

It will be remembered that, during 1952, local authorities had been able to issue licences for the erection of new houses up to one half of their own allocation of new houses for the year. With effect from the 1st January, 1953, however, licences were issued automatically on application for houses up to 1,000 feet super, and at the Council's discretion for houses exceeding 1,000 but not exceeding 1,500 feet super. As a result, some 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % more licences for new houses were issued in 1953 than in 1952.

On and after the 20th October, 1953, licences were issued without conditions restricting the selling prices or rentals and as from the 20th December such restrictions ceased to apply in the case of licences already issued.

Up to the 17th June, 1953, a "ceiling" of £3,795 per quarter had been imposed on the total value of licences issued for conversions, adaptations, repairs and maintenance, etc. As from this date, the "ceiling" arrangements were cancelled and there was no longer any limit to the value of licences issued. Applications were to be judged on their merits. It is pointed out that these steps did not result in the issue of more licences for these classes of work. On the contrary. During the year as a whole, fewer licences were granted than in previous years, due to the raising of the "free limit" (under which building work to dwelling houses could be done without licence) from £200 per annum in 1952 to £500 per annum.

Licences were granted as follows :—

			Total Value
1) NEW HOUSES—private enterprise	51	.....	£128,360
2) CONVERSIONS AND ADAPTATIONS	3	.....	4,340
3) REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE, ETC.	10	.....	7,393

PLANS

A.—BUILDING BYELAWS

Number of Plans approved under the Council's Building Byelaws	185
Number disapproved	Nil
(Number of Inspections carried out in connection with the Bye-laws 558).	

B.—TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947

Number of plans and applications for development submitted and passed to the Planning Authority with the Council's observations	207
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WATER SUPPLY

Work on the Council's Comprehensive Scheme of Water Supply proceeded satisfactorily.

The Impounding Reservoir and Treatment Works at Sutton Bingham are in course of construction and the following works were completed during the year :—

- 750,000 gallon concrete service reservoir at Coker Hill ;
- 5,909 yds. 18in. C.I. pumping main from Sutton Bingham to Coker Hill ;
- 3,017 yds. 15in. C.I. trunk main from Coker Hill to Odcombe;
- 4,727 yds. 12in. C.I. trunk main from Odcombe to Lower Vagg ;
- 542 yds. 9in C.I. trunk main from Lower Vagg to Halfway, Chilthorne Domer ;
- 6,707 yds. 6in. A.C. service main from Ilchester to West Camel;
- 1,819 yds. 3in. A.C. pumping main from Sutton Bingham to Closworth ;
- 720 yds. 3in. A.C. service main Foldhill Lane, Martock;
- 810 yds. 3in. A.C. service mains on various housing estates.

The Temporary Intake from the Stream at Sutton Bingham was completed and, after extraction and treatment, some 300,000 gallons of water were pumped daily through the new 18in. pumping main to Coker Hill Reservoir, whence it was fed into the area supplied from the Odcombe and Mudford reservoirs. This temporary supply will be available until the impounding reservoir is completed.

135 samples of water from public and private supplies were submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination, as follows :—

	<i>Public Supplies</i>	<i>Private Supplies</i>
Total number of samples taken ...	114	21
Reported Satisfactory ...	113	17
Reported Unsatisfactory ...	1	4

15 samples of water from public supplies and one from a private supply were submitted to the County Laboratory for chemical examination. All were reported satisfactory.

The following is a summary of the present position regarding houses and population supplied with water :—

	<i>Number of Houses</i>	<i>Estimated Population</i>
Public Supply direct into Houses ...	4,992	16,224
Public Supply by means of Standpipes	1,159	3,767
Private Piped Supplies (supplying more than 3 houses) ...	99	310
Without a piped supply, or where the supply is for 3, or fewer, houses	272	884
	<hr/> 6,522 <hr/>	<hr/> 21,185 <hr/>

In addition to the above, two military camps are supplied with water in bulk from the Council's mains.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

East and West Coker—Scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal completed.

Haselbury Plucknett—Extension of sewer and construction of new sewage disposal works completed.

Mudford—New scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal in course of preparation.

Martock, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, Montacute—A new combined disposal works and trunk sewers for the three parishes is still in course of preparation.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The centralised slaughtering of animals outside the district was continued.

15 licences in respect of private slaughterhouses were renewed during the year.

The number of horses slaughtered at Martock during the year averaged 33 per week.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

These are in a fairly satisfactory condition.

There are 20 Bakehouses in the district.

OUTWORKERS (Factories Act, 1937—Section 110)

No. of Outworkers at 31st August, 1953 : 796

REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE

The amounts of salvageable materials sold during the year, and the prices realised, are as follows :—

	<i>Amount Sold</i>		<i>Value</i>
Waste Paper	14 tons 10 cwts. 1 qr. ...	£ 48 2 5	
Metals	52 tons 2 cwts. 2 qrs. ...	£155 10 9	
Total ...		£203 13 2	

RODENT CONTROL

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the Council's rodent operators during the year :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	Total
I. No. of Inspections during the year, as a result of :—					
(a) Notification	—	84	—	—	84
(b) Otherwise	64	6,436	381	348	7,229
II. No. of Properties under I. found to be infested :—					
(i) MAJOR	2	—	27	7	36
(ii) MINOR	44	205	40	12	301
III. No. of Infested Properties under II. treated by the Council's Operators	46	205	—	19	270
IV. No. of Informal Notices served.	—	—	27	—	27

It was not found necessary to take any formal action under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act. 1949.

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. WILSON,

Senior Sanitary Inspector,

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods,

Fellow of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

